Docket No.: 20802/0205146-US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hans Naegerl

Application No.: 10/599,524

Confirmation No.: 1315

Filed: September 29, 2006

Art Unit: 3733

For: ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISK

Examiner: Y. Andrew

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 19, 2008, and together with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) being filed herewith, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: